

## INCREASE IN BREAD PRICES

**EFFECT OF SUBSIDY REMOVAL:** Because of the apparent uncertainty concerning the actual effect on bread prices of the recent removal of the government subsidy paid on flour, War-time Prices and Trade Board has issued a statement showing the actual amounts by which these products are affected when the previous subsidy is transferred into price.

The subsidy removal increased the cost of wheat purchased by the millers by approximately 81 cents per bushel, or \$3.65 for the four and one-half bushels required to produce one barrel of flour (196 pounds).

By increasing the price of mill feeds produced from the same four and one-half bushels of wheat by approximately 35 cents, the net increased cost to the millers is \$3.30.

The amount by which the millers have raised flour prices is approximately \$4.05 per barrel and in so doing they have allowed 75 cents per barrel for accumulated increased costs of labour, bags and other materials.

Where bakers are now paying an additional \$4.05 per barrel of flour which produces about 280 pounds of bread or 186 24 oz loaves, it means that the actual amount by which the cost of each pound of bread is increased is slightly under one and one-half cents, or two and one-fifth cents for the 24-oz. loaf.

If the baker raises his bread price three cents for a 24-oz. loaf he makes allowance not only for increased flour costs, but also for higher costs of labor and for other materials used in bread making.

The Board also pointed out that the legal weight of the bread loaf is governed by provincial regulations and varies widely in the different areas across Canada. In the Maritime provinces the standard legal weights are 20 and 24 ounces. In Quebec, the weight varies from the large two pound loaf to a twelve ounce loaf. In Ontario, the bulk of the bread sold is in 24 ounce loaves but 16 ounce and 12 ounce loaves are also legal. In Manitoba the standard weight is one pound. In Saskatchewan and Alberta the standard is 20 ounces and in British Columbia it is one pound for unwrapped bread and 15 ounces for wrapped.

**TARIFF PACT WITH LIECHTENSTEIN:** Notes have been exchanged between the Governments of Switzerland and Canada extending most-favoured-nation treatment in tariff matters to the Principality of Liechtenstein.

Under the Treaty of Friendship, Commerce and Reciprocal Establishment between the United Kingdom and Switzerland signed at Lerne on September 6, 1855, the products of Switzerland are granted most-favoured-nation treatment on importation into Canada. However, the products of the Principality of Liechtenstein (which became, under the Treaty between Switzerland and Liechtenstein of March 29, 1923, an integral part of the Swiss Customs Union) have been subject to General tariff rates on im-

portation into Canada since Canada had not extended the provisions of the Treaty of Friendship of 1855 to Liechtenstein.

Under the Agreement now concluded, the Treaty of Friendship of 1855 has been extended on a basis of reciprocity to the Principality of Liechtenstein.

**CHIEF CURATOR NATIONAL MUSEUM:** Dr. F. J. Alcock, formerly a senior geologist in the Geological Survey, Mines and Geology Branch, Department of Mines and Resources, has been appointed Chief Curator of the National Museum, Ottawa. The appointment of Dr. Alcock marks the first occasion upon which the National Museum has had a full-time director since the death of Dr. William McInnes in 1925.

**RECORD BIRTH RATE:** Canada had a record number of new babies for a year in 1946; when live births soared to 325,805 from 288,730 in 1945, according to preliminary figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. At the same time, deaths increased only slightly to 113,519 compared with 113,414. As a result, the natural increase in Canada's population rose to 212,286 as against 175,316 in 1945. Marriages jumped even more sharply to 134,078 in 1946 from 108,031 in 1945, exceeding by a wide margin the highest wartime years.

## PEACE RATIFICATIONS DEPOSITED

**WAR ENDS WITH ITALY AND SATELLITES:** The Department of External Affairs announces that the Canadian Instruments of Ratification of the Peace Treaties with Italy, Roumania, Hungary and Finland have been deposited, thus terminating the state of war existing between Canada and these countries. The Instruments of Ratification were signed by His Majesty the King on the recommendation of the Canadian Government, after approval had been given by the Parliament of Canada.

The Instruments of Ratification of the Peace Treaties with Roumania, Hungary and Finland were deposited by the Canadian Embassy in Moscow with the Soviet Foreign Ministry at 6 p.m., Moscow time, September 19. The Instrument of Ratification of the Peace Treaty with Italy was deposited by the Canadian Embassy in Paris with the French Foreign Office at 6 p.m., Paris time, on September 15. The Peace Treaties came into force, as between Canada and each enemy state, on the date of the deposit of the Canadian Instrument of Ratification.

The Instruments of Ratification executed by the enemy states and by the United Kingdom, the United States of America, the Soviet Union and France, were deposited on September 15th.

The deposit of the Canadian Instruments of Ratification brings to a close the process of peace making with the ex-Axis satellite states of Europe and is the final step in the proce-

dures which, as far as Canada is concerned, commenced with its participation in the Paris Conference, July 29th to October 15th, 1946. The Treaties were signed by Major General G.P. Vanier, Canadian Ambassador to France, on February 10th, 1947.

Canada is still legally in a state of war with Germany and Japan, with whom peace treaties have not yet been completed.

**TORONTO'S WEDDING GIFT:** A large shipment of food for Great Britain to which every citizen will have a chance to contribute will be Toronto's wedding gift to Princess Elizabeth and Lieut. Philip Mountbatten, Mayor Saunders has announced.

Merchants will be asked to display baskets into which shoppers can drop canned goods or non-perishable food. Children will bring food gifts to school. A door-to-door collection will be organized. The food is to be sent in one mass shipment and the Mayor will ask the Federal Government to forgo postage.

## INTERNATIONAL TRADE FAIR

**WORLD-WIDE APPLICATIONS:** Applications for space in Canada's International Trade Fair, to be held in Toronto, May 31, to June 12, 1948, have so far exceeded original estimates that two additional buildings have had to be taken over, bringing the total amount of floor space required to House the Fair to nearly three quarters of a million square feet. Trade Fair headquarters announce.

The additional applications have come not only from Canadian manufacturers but as well from almost every corner of the globe, including Great Britain, United States, Holland, China, India, Turkey, Switzerland, Columbia, Brazil, France, Cyprus, South India, Portugal, Czechoslovakia, Greece, Singapore, New Zealand, Australia, Central America, Norway, Italy, Denmark, Ireland, Hong Kong, Malay States.

The Trade Fair's space allocation committee with the task of arranging the space for each exhibitor in the particular group classification in which his product belongs, has had to completely re-organize the first allocation to take care of the greatly increased number of exhibitors.

At the same time more than 120,000 invitations to buyers throughout the world to attend the fair are now ready for the mails. These will go out in five different languages, English, French, Spanish, Portuguese and Dutch.

**CANADA'S EARLY TOBACCO:** Tobacco production in Canada is generally regarded as being of recent origin. As a matter of fact, as Dr. N.A. MacRae, Chief, Tobacco Division, Dominion Experimental Farms Service, points out, limited quantities were grown locally by the native Indians before the arrival of the early explorers and mariners from France during the

16th century. Its commercial importance and potential agricultural significance, however, were not recognized until a few years following the beginning of the present century.

## UNIQUE CO-OPERATIVE

**HORSEMEAT FOR FOOD:** The development of the Horse Co-operative Marketing Association has been one of the most notable in the history of agricultural co-operation in Canada, states W.F. Chown in the Economic Annalist, the review of agricultural business issued by the Economics Division, Dominion Department of Agriculture. As World War II progressed and the shortage of food became more and more apparent, it was realized that the surplus horses of Western Canada were using grazing land that might better be used for cattle and sheep and that these horses were a potential source of food and other needed products. During March, 1944, meetings were held at several points in South-western Saskatchewan which culminated in a large meeting in Swift Current in April. A charter was obtained and a co-operative association organized for the purpose of conserving the grazing and pasture lands of Western Canada by finding a market for surplus horses with the best possible returns to the producer and where the producer would participate in the profit of the undertaking.

### CONTRACT WITH BELGIUM

In May, 1945, a contract was made to supply the Government of Belgium with 10,000 tons of pickled horse meat and with various by-products. In June, 1945, the co-operative was reorganized under its present name. An unused power plant was acquired from the city of Swift Current and converted into a horse meat packing and canning plant. Effective operation in the cannery commenced in March, 1946.

Meanwhile on July 1, 1945, a small horse meat plant at Edmonton was purchased as a going concern and enlarged to produce horse meat for human consumption, shipments of meat commencing in March, 1946. Production on the Belgium contract commenced on March, 1946. In January, 1946, a contract was entered into with the Canadian Commercial Corporation to supply 7,000 tons of canned horse meat and gravy to UNRRA.

At December 31, 1946, the investment in fixed assets at both plants cost \$720,000, of which about \$90,000 has been charged to operations, leaving \$630,000 to be carried forward and charged against future operations.

**SOLDIERS' COMMUNITY TOWN:** Soldiers and their families who have taken up residence in married quarters of Army camps have long since settled the question of whether they wanted a "camp" or "community"; "shack town" or "garden city".

At Shilo, for instance, they have among other things constructed tennis courts and a